Prior USSN: 09/978,993 Prior Art Unit: 1761

## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## In the Claims:

1 (original). A liquid composition for oral use containing a calcium compound and an acidulant characterised in that calcium is present in the range of 0.3 to 0.55 mol per mol of acid and that the proportion of calcium and acidulant in the composition is selected so that the pH of the composition is from 3.5 to 4.5.

2 (original). A composition as claimed in claim 1 in which the calcium is present in an amount of at least 0.4 mol per mol of acid.

3 (currently amended). A composition as claimed in claim 1 or 2 in which the pH of the composition is not more than 4.

4 (currently amended). A composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3

<u>Claim 1</u> in which the pH is from 3.7 to 3.9.

5 (currently amended). A composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4

Claim 1 in which the acid is citric acid or malic acid or lactic acid or mixtures thereof.

6 (currently amended). A composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5

Claim 1 in which the calcium compound is calcium carbonate, calcium hydroxide, calcium citrate, calcium malate, calcium lactate, calcium chloride, calcium glycerophosphate or calcium formate.

7 (currently amended). A composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6

Claim 1 which is a beverage.

Prior USSN: 09/978,993 Prior Art Unit: 1761

8 (currently amended). A composition as claimed in claim 7 in which the beverage is a still fruit drink, or a carbonated soft drink or preferably a health drink.

9 (currently amended). A composition as claimed in claim 8 in which the health drink is <u>a</u> blackcurrant juice drink or a vitamin added beverage.

10 (currently amended). A composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6

Claim 1 which is a drink concentrate for the preparation of a beverage.

11 (original). A composition as claimed in clain 10 which is a concentrate for a fruit drink or health drink.

12 (currently amended). A composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6

Claim 1 which is an oral healthcare composition.

13 (original). A composition as claimed in claim 12 which is a mouthwash.

14 (currently amended). A method of using Use of calcium as a tooth erosion inhibitor in an acidic liquid composition for oral use, which method comprises by adding a calcium compound and an acidulant, to the composition so that wherein the calcium is present in the range of 0.3 to 0.8 mol per mol of acid, and the amount of calcium and acidulant in the composition is selected so that the pH of the composition is from 3.5 to 4.5.

15 (currently amended). The method Use as claimed in claim 14 in which the calcium is present in an amount of at least 0.4 mol per mol of acid.

16 (currently amended). The method Use as claimed in claim 14 or 15 in which the pH of the composition is not more than 4.

17 (currently amended). The method Use as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 46 Claim 14 in which the pH of the composition is from 3.7 to 3.9.

Prior USSN: 09/978,993 Prior Art Unit: 1761

18 (currently amended). The method Use as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 16-Claim 14 in which the acidic liquid composition is a natural fruit drink concentrate beverage.

19 (currently amended). A process for preparing a composition as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 13-claim 1-which comprises adding a calcium compound to an acidic liquid oral composition so that calcium is present in the range of 0.3 to 0.55 mol per mol of acid, and if necessary or desired adjusting the pH by addition of an alkali so that the pH of the composition is from 3.5 to 4.5.

20 (original). A process as claimed in claim 19 in which the acidic liquid composition is a natural juice drink concentrate.

21 (original). A method of reducing tooth erosion properties of an acidic oral composition which comprises adding a calcium compound to the acidic liquid oral composition so that calcium is present in the range of 0.3 to 0.55 mol per mol of acid, and if necessary or desired by adjusting the pH by addition of an alkali so that the pH of the composition is from 3.5 to 4.5.

22 (original). A method as claimed in claim 21 in which the acidic liquid composition is a natural fruit juice drink concentrate.